



Celebrating Books, Art, & Kansas  
Heritage

October 5-6, 2007

Koch Arena ★ Wichita, Kansas

[www.kansasbookfestival.ks.gov](http://www.kansasbookfestival.ks.gov)

Governor Kathleen Sebelius

Honorary Chair

## Fact Sheet

The Kansas Book Festival, created by Governor Kathleen Sebelius and the Governor's Cultural Affairs Council, showcases the state's rich literary and artistic heritage while celebrating reading and books. The first Festival took place in Wichita in September 2006 and drew 7,500 people.

"The Kansas Book Festival provides an excellent opportunity to enhance cultural appreciation and awareness within our state," said Governor Kathleen Sebelius. "Literature, art and music are an important part of our history, and the Book Festival allows Kansans to reflect on our heritage and appreciate our past."

### New In 2007

- **Festival Beneficiary:** Proceeds from the Festival will benefit the Kansas State Library's Statewide Summer Reading Program, which reaches 80,000 children through public libraries in 400 Kansas communities every year.
- **Author Programming:** Kansas authors will continue to be the focus of the Festival; national authors will also be included in 2007. Presentations by more than 50 authors, including **Michael Korda, Steve Doocy, Denise Low, Cal Thomas and Bob Beckel, Don Coldsmith, Laura Moriarty, Antonya Nelson, and Nancy Pickard**, along with children's authors **Michael Buckley, Ally Carter, Shane Evans, Richard W. Jennings, Tim Raglin, Dian Curtis Regan, Lois Ruby, Cynthia Leitich Smith, and Brad Sneed**.
- **"A Night of Notables" Gala at the Wichita Museum of Art:** The Kansas Center for the Book will honor its 2007 Notable Books award winners at this seated dinner. The evening will also feature presentations by authors **Michael Korda, Steve Doocy, and Denise Low**; book sales and signings; musical entertainment; and complimentary wine. Proceeds from the Gala will go to the Kansas Library Association Educational Foundation's Greensburg/Kiowa County Library Relief Fund. Tickets are \$100.

### 2006 Kansas Book Festival Highlights

- **Authors.** More than 30 authors with Kansas connections gave readings and talks and signed books; authors included **Tom Averill, Don Coldsmith, Robert Day, Jerry Engler, Larry Hatteberg**, Kansas Poet Laureate **Jonathan Holden, Jane Kurtz, Denise Low, Brad Sneed, and William Tsutsui**.
- **Tribute to Gordon Parks:** The Festival paid tribute to Kansas's own **Gordon Parks**, acclaimed photographer, writer (*The Learning Tree*), musician, and filmmaker, with a special presentation featuring his son David Parks, musician Queen Bey, and KU film professor Kevin Wilmott.
- **Festival events:** The Kansas State Historical Society coordinated the children's programming, which attracted about 5,000 area schoolchildren on Friday. Governor Sebelius read to children and opened the event. The Kansas Arts Commission spotlighted entertainers. Kansas booksellers, literary organizations, and Cultural Affairs Council partners exhibited merchandise and sold books.
- **Infamous film screening:** The Kansas Film Commission presented an advance screening of *Infamous*, a film about Truman Capote and the writing of *In Cold Blood*; the event featured a Q&A with director Douglas McGrath and a reception.
- **The Black, White, and READ All Over Ball:** The Kansas Center for the Book announced its 2006 Notable Books award winners at this black-tie event.